

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-08

CIEP-03 AID-20 DRC-01 OMB-01 SWF-02 /183 W

----- 040035

R 120800Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3203

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10641

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, IN

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SOVIET FOODGRAIN ASSISTANCE

REF: NEW DELHI 9891

1. ECONOMIC TIMES REPORTED AUGUST 9 IN DELHI-DATELINED ITEM BY "SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT" THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY IN MOSCOW TOWARD A NEW LOAN OF 2 MILLION TONS OF SOVIET FOODGRAINS. ARTICLE CONTINUES WITH LENGTHY ANALYSIS OF INDIAN FOODGRAIN SITUATION, MAKING POINT THAT SOVIET LOAN WOULD EASE EXPECTED TIGHTNESS IN FOOD AVAILABILITY.

2. IN AUGUST 11 FINANCIAL EXPRESS ITEM, SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRS BOLDYREV IS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD PRESS INDIA HAS NOT ASKED FOR SOVIET FOOD, SAYING HE HAS "NO INFORMATION" ABOUT AN INDIAN REQUEST. ARTICLE SAYS BOLDYREV "HOWEVER, SAID IF INDIA NEEDED MORE FOODGRAINS, THE USSR WOULD MEET THE DEMAND." SOVIET EMBASSY
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OFFICIAL QUERIED BY EMBASSY AUGUST 12 WOULD NOT CONFIRM OR

DENY PRESS VERSION OF CHARGE'S REMARKS, SAYING THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT CHARGE SAID.

3. EMBASSY CONTAINUES TO BELIEVE THAT INDIANS HAVE RAISED SUBJECT OF FOOD ASSISTANCE WITH SOVIETS (REFTEL) WHO HOPE TO POSTPONE REPLY UNTIL SIZE OF SOVIET HARVEST AND OTHER FACTORS BECOME CLEAR.

MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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